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Sri T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR :—" In view of the fact that food equivalent to six days' ration only is produced at present in North Malabar, and also in view of the fact that out of the 18 lakhs acres of cultivable waste lands, only 0·7 per cent has been brought under cultivation within the last five years, will the Hon. Minister give us an assurance that if at all there is any land under the direct control of the Government, it will be immediately leased out to those ryots who are prepared to till the soil? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " With regard to 18 lakhs of acres, it is the figure given by the Hon. Member. The correct figure is the one that I have just now given, viz., five lakhs and odd acres of cultivable waste lands and six lakhs and odd acres of forest lands. With regard to the question of leasing out the land, Government will take action as early as possible."

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" I wish to give some information to the Hon. Minister. In a Government publication called 'Achievements in the last five years in Malabar' sent to me as M.L.A., it is mentioned that 1,829,937 acres are cultivable waste lands, and I know personally that a good portion of it is now possessed by the Government under the management of an Estate Manager of the grade of a Special Tahsildar."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is only giving information."

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" No, Sir; I wish to put a question to the Hon. Minister. In view of the facts given out in that Government publication to the effect that there are waste lands to the extent of about 18 lakhs acres under the management of a Special Tahsildar, may I know whether the Hon. Minister will correct his statement that there are only 5 lakhs acres of cultivable waste lands, whether he would care to ascertain what is the correct extent of cultivable waste lands in Malabar, and how many acres are directly in the possession of the Government? Secondly, may I also know whether the Government will take immediate steps to enforce Section 52-B of the Malabar Tenancy Act and compel the janmis to lease out the cultivable waste lands to the ryots? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I have already answered that the Government have not yet delegated powers under Section 52-B to an Officer. As for expediting the leasing of lands, I may tell the hon. Member that I will take early steps. I will also enquire about the figures given by the hon. Member."

Centres for the S.S.L.C. Public Examination.

* 111 *Q.*—Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU : Will the Hon. Minister for Education be pleased to state in how many schools there are S.S.L.C. Public Examination centres?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" The number of schools which had centres for the S.S.L.C. Public Examination of March 1952 was 497."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that most of the schools situated in the rural parts of the country are not centres, and boys are made to go and appear for the examination in other centres situated at a distance of about 10 to 15 miles from their places, where there are no hotels and other facilities to stay ? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" I will go into the matter."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know whether the Government will open centres for the S.S.L.C. Public Examination in all taluk headquarters instead of only in district headquarters ? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" The Public Examination is conducted not only in district headquarters but also in taluk headquarters, and all other places whereever a school presents 75 pupils for the examination. If a school presents a smaller number of boys and girls, then those students will be clubbed together with students from other schools and asked to sit for the examination in some other school where space, furniture and such other facilities are available."

SRI K. RAJAGOPALA RAO :—" In view of the great difficulties experienced by the students, may I know whether the Government will consider the demand for opening S.S.L.C. Examination centres in each and every school? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" I cannot say that a centre will be opened in each and every school. But the difficulties experienced by the students will be gone into, and as many centres as possible will be opened."

Number of cases dealt with by the Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings.

* 112 *Q*.—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state how many Gazetted Officials were dealt with by the Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings during the year 1951–52 and how many of them were punished and how?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Thirty-two cases of Gazetted Officials were dealt with by the Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings during 1951–52 and final orders